

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8467
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
USMISSION SINAI
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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 11712

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, EG, IS
SUBJ: FURTHER PRESS REPORTS ON EGYPTIAN PROTEST OF
- ISRAELI PRODUCTION IN SINAI AND GULF OF SUEZ

REF: CAIRO 11255 (NOTAL)

1. AL AHRAH CARRIED FRONT PAGE ARTICLE IN APRIL 26
FINAL EDITION (IN EARLIER EDITIONS STORY WAS BANNER HEAD-
LINE) ABOUT GOE FOREIGN MINISTER KAMEL'S LETTER TO UN
SECRETARY GENERAL ON ILLEGAL ISRAELI OIL EXPLORATION AND
PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN OCCUPIED EGYPTIAN
TERRITORY. ARTICLE SIGNED BY DIPLOMATIC EDITOR HAMDI
FOUAD. ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT EGYPT HAS ASKED THAT ITS
COMPLAINT BE INCLUDED ON NEXT UNGA AGENDA BECAUSE OF
"GRAVE CONSEQUENCES RESULTING FROM ISRAELI'S CONTINUING
ACTS." ACCORDING TO FOUAD, GOE ALSO EXPRESSED IN SEPARATE
COMMUNICATION TO USG ITS MOUNTING CONCERN REGARD-
ING ISRAELI ACTIVITY WHICH "CONFLICTS WITH INTERNATIONAL
AGREEMENTS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES." FOUAD POINTEDLY
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NOTES THAT COMPANIES FROM "SEVERAL WESTERN COUNTRIES"
HAVE HELPED ISRAEL CARRY OUT ITS ILLEGAL OPERATIONS.

2. ACCORDING TO FOUAD, NOTE WHICH GOE "SENT" TO U. S.
PUTS ON RECORD THAT ISRAEL TOOK FOLLOWING STEPS:

A. INITIATED NEW EXPLORATION IN OCCUPIED TERRITORY AND

TERRITORIAL WATERS (IN MEDITERRANEAN NORTH OF AL-ARISHD AND GULF OF SUEZ);

B. GAVE CONCESSIONS TO FOREIGN COMPANIES TO EXPLORE FOR OIL IN OCCUPIED TERRITORY AND WATERS;

C. CONTINUED EXPLOITATION OF EGYPTIAN OIL RESERVES WHICH CONFLICTS WITH RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY PREVIOUS INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS.

ARTICLE CONCLUDES WITH BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF 1977 UNGA RESOLUTION UNDERLINING ARAB COUNTRIES' PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATURAL RESOURCES IN AREAS CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL.

3. MFA LEGAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR NABIL ELARABY TOLD US RECENTLY (REFTTEL) THAT FOREIGN MINISTER PREPARING SEPARATE LETTER TO "U. S. AND OTHERS" CALLING ATTENTION TO KAMEL-WALDHEIM LETTER. ELARABY TOLD EMBOFF APRIL 26 THAT HE HAD NOT YET, HOWEVER, FORWARDED LETTER TO MINISTER KAMEL FOR SIGNATURE. ELARABY ALSO POINTED OUT THAT EGYPT HAS NOT ASKED FOR INCLUSION OF ITEM ON UNGA AGENDA. MFA OFFICIAL AT A LOSS ABOUT SOURCE OF FOUAD STORY AND SAID FOUAD HAD REFUSED TO DIVULGE HIS SOURCE TO HIM.

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4. ELARABY ASKED EMBOFF ABOUT TRUTH OF STORY, WHICH FOUAD HAD PASSED ON TO HIM, THAT ISRAELI ACTIVITIES IN GULF OF SUEZ HAD BEEN SUBJECT DISCUSSED BETWEEN AMBASSADOR ATHERTON AND FOREIGN MINISTER AND PRESIDENT DURING RECENT VISIT. EMBOFF SAID THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE IT HAD NOT BEEN A TOPIC OF DISCUSSION. EILTS

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